

## The News Scimitar

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A Great Success.

The total amount contributed through The News Scimitar from Nov. 25 to Dec. 25, exactly 30 days, for the Goodfellows-Santa Claus club amounted to \$14,110.31.

It is \$9.65 less than the amount contributed a year ago when the country was supposed to be at the peak of prosperity.

The support of the Goodfellows-Santa Claus club this year was most gratifying. It exceeded our expectations. It proved that the average of conditions is about the same as a year ago.

A year ago donations came in large amounts from the few who had enjoyed unusual prosperity. This year the donations came in small amounts and from almost everybody. It is an accurate barometer of conditions in this community, regardless of what may be said by the carriers of pessimism.

Nothing need be said of the work of the Goodfellows-Santa Claus club for the benefit of those who devoted their time to sorting, packing and distributing gifts among the poor, the hungry, the unfortunate and the fatherless children without means.

But for those who gave their money and relied upon the club to spend it judiciously, it may be said that the fund was handled as a sacred trust; that no expense was incurred—no wages, salaries or pay of any kind.

The work was a work of love and of sacrifice. Insofar as it was possible to ascertain, no needy person was neglected or overlooked.

The Goodfellows-Santa Claus club carried joy to the hearts of hundreds who otherwise would have had a cheerless Christmas. We proceeded on the theory that every child is entitled to a visit from Santa Claus and that every person is entitled to a square meal on Christmas day; that shoes and clothing and other articles of necessity are softening influences and the best prevention against Bolshevism and anarchy.

We congratulate those who contributed so liberally and so generously, and we are doubly grateful to those that took upon themselves the burden of the work that consumed their days and nights to the neglect of their private business, all for the sake of carrying a little sunshine and a little cheer into otherwise desolate hearts and homes.

Except in isolated instances, the action of the house in slashing \$420,000 from the sundry civil bill and a reduction of \$1,422,181 in the post-office bill, resulting in a total saving of \$432,336.73, there will be no criticism. In fact, we are of the opinion that the house is doing exactly what is expected of it by the American people.

When it is understood that the savings represented are in only two of the 15 appropriation bills to run the government during the next year beginning July 1, some idea may be gained of the genuine disposition on the part of congress to economize.

Every dollar of appropriation made by congress must be raised by taxation, and every dollar cut from the appropriation is a dollar saved to the taxpayers.

It must be remembered that the striking and unprecedented disposition to economize is the work of a Republican congress, and that every dollar taken from the appropriation leaves a Republican administration that much less on which to operate during the next fiscal year.

The appropriation for flood control on the Mississippi river, which was reduced from \$10,000,000 to \$6,670,000 in the sundry bill, represents quite a reduction, yet the amount appropriated remains the same as it was for the year preceding. Other appropriations did not fare so well. They were reduced to amounts much less than those of the preceding year.

We could not object to the reduction in the Mississippi river flood control bill and at the same time give unqualified approval to the striking disposition to economize in all other particulars, and be consistent.

We are confident the reduction in the cost of operating the government will bring relief to thousands of oppressed taxpayers without impairing in any degree the efficient administration of the government's affairs.

It must be considered in this connection that the estimates of amounts needed for the conduct of the government were submitted by a Democratic administration for the conduct of the government under a Republican administration. It would be fully to appropriate more than the Republicans ask for, and it is almost certain that while the house has made some sensational reductions, it has been careful not to impair or interfere with the efficiency of the coming administration by denying it sufficient funds on which to operate.

## Hair Dressing.

At a prominent woman's congress a mere man went hearty applause by stating that women were not made to cook, that that was man's province. On top of that comes the information that at a hair-dressing contest in Brighton, England, the prize was carried away by a man from more than 90 female competitors. This, too, all the way from marcel waves and bandeaux marquis to psyche knots. Truly the feminists are having their revenge when they are turning over to men what was once regarded as exclusively woman's sphere, and calmly taking possession of a sphere where men once reigned supreme.

Not always, however. During the reign of Louis XIV the male hair-dresser was the real ruler of the land. Then it was that coiffures gained mountainous proportions, and to behold Blaquiere dress the head of "le roi soleil" was a privilege coveted by dukes, princes and foreign ambassadors and only extended as a mark of singular favor. Blaquiere's aid was solicited by all wishing to gain favor with the king. He occupied the same coveted position of power that Louis Eleventh's barber possessed, and that could only be paralleled in our day by the anomalous position of John Brown, coachman of Queen Victoria.

In the days of "le grande monarche" coiffures were the work of hours. They towered high in the air and were worn for weeks without change.

It is related of a tax farmer, a position of great influence in those days, that while at the play his elaborate headpiece so interfered with the view of the man behind him that he bored a small hole through the hair and the thick wax that kept it in place to see through. When the play was finished the tax collector, Mairvaux, said to the fellow that he had not interfered with his pleasure during the play, but now that it was over he must restore his hair to its original beauty or meet him on the field of honor. The spectator, a retired woolen dealer, laughingly accepted the commission and proved to be so ingenious that the two men became bosom friends and cronies the rest of their lives.

So, after all, it is not so much that man is usurping the domain of woman, but rather coming back into his own, when he wins first prize as a hair dresser over all women participants. One thing, however: man that formerly monopolized his art has fled the field, leaving it unreservedly to women, for nowadays when the average man has secured a neat hair trim, a close shave and a smooth massage he thinks he has paid all the court necessary in the temple of beauty.

Incidentally, whether men officiate or not, advance fashion notes state that ladies will wear their hair—whether dressed by nature or purchased for cash—very high, and that waves and curls will be popular.

## The Tables Turn.

At last the tables have turned and the average boarder is not at all surprised. In fact, he has been looking for something of the sort for a long time. Animated by the examples around him the festive prune has gone Bolshevism and exploded, injuring two persons.

Mrs. Samuel Gibbons, of Newark, N. J., placed a pot of prunes on the stove, thinking merely of the gastronomic joys to come and never thinking of danger. How was she to know that the revolt of the proletarian prune was on? Later a gentleman passing the house heard an explosion, saw a blinding flash of light and sent in an alarm, while tenants of the apartment house fled in terror. Firemen found the Gibbons in a corner badly scalded, the ceiling torn away and plaster lying in every direction.

For years the lowly and lucious prune has been the butt of ridicule. Paragraphers have poked fun at it, "columnists" when brain pains were dry could always fall back on the boarding house staff of life, and every asperation cast upon it in prose and verse met with the loud laughter of the unthinking. A story, "The Sixth Prune," even graced the far from classic pages of the Saturday Evening Post. Shakespeare assures us that the worm will turn, so is it any wonder that at last the meek and resilient prune determined that it was time to assert its rights?

There is riot and unrest everywhere. Suppose it should spread to other portions of the boarding house menu. There is terror in the thought! Suppose the chicken pot pie should rise in its wrath and with various porcine grunts declare that it is a fowl crime for pork to be classed as poultry and demand a recount! Imagination pales before the possibility of the dried apple, the festive bread pudding and the "near-and-yet-not" coffee going on a strike and "acting up" as our friend the prune has done.

## Beauties of Bolshevism.

A new heaven and a new earth was to be the result of a government of the proletariat, according to its high priests, Lenin and Trotsky. What that new dispensation has turned out to be is shown by a dispatch from Petrograd. A number of city laborers struck for more food and demanded a lessening of the 16-hour working day. The soviet authorities refused and 108 of the malcontents were put to death. Thus illustrating the beauties of soviet rule.

This is the Eden the working people were to be ushered into when the proletarians came to power. Perfect liberty to work 16 hours a day and on insufficient food at that—and shot to death if they objected. Could a tyranny of capitalism go farther than the tyranny and brutality of sovietism?

Suppose such a thing had occurred in this country, though such a supposition even, is unthinkable. But

just suppose that men had been forced to work in a rigorous climate for 16 hours a day—and half starved at that—and they had struck for more food and less hours of labor, and had been shot down without compassion. What a thrill of horror would have gone up from every part of the civilized world! How labor would have met and resolute and condemned—and rightly—the horrible massacre. The civilized world would have been aghast and the loud-lunked labor agitator would have had food for his many mouthings for years to come.

This thing is horrible. The men slain by the order of the soviet government are martyrs of labor as much as ever the victims of Red Sunday were martyrs of capitalism. Will labor continue to be silent or will it denounce this and all other such crimes committed in the name of labor?

Changes in the Church.

What would the Puritans have thought of the modern church? They would not permit music of any kind in their sacred edifices, save the Psalms, for to them even hymns were taboo. It made no difference how exalted or beautiful the sentiment of the hymn, they were all anathema. As for musical instruments, they were not to be thought of.

Will Carlton in his "Farm Ballads" has a woman who protests violently over the introduction of an organ in the church, and threatens to withdraw if they persist in their intention to install one. This often happened in New England, where the Congregationalists or "Independents" clung tenaciously to their primitive observance. In many cases the church was split and separate congregations formed over this momentous question.

And now comes the Christian church of Houston, Tex., with moving pictures installed as an attraction to churchgoers. Songs of the choir will also be illustrated by motion pictures, according to the pastor, Rev. T. F. Weaver. "The Call of Samuel," a Biblical play, was the first Sunday picture shown, and the church was crowded. It is arranged to have a picture on sacred subjects every Sunday.

What would the Wesleys or Alexanders Campbell have thought of such an innovation? And yet, when we realize what foes they were to conventionalism, to the commonplace, and how they counted all as worth while that led to the saving of souls, one is constrained to think that they would have been the first to welcome such a means of carrying the message to a sin-sick world. It will be interesting to watch the result of this experiment.

Memphis Not Affected by New Arkansas Rate.

Memphis is not affected by the 20 per cent increase which was granted to railroads by the interstate commerce commission, but which was kept out of the state of Arkansas by the state commerce commission until the action of the latter body was overruled by the interstate commission and the increase allowed to take effect Jan. 1.

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## KEEP YOUR DATES STRAIGHT!

One principle that no man can afford to neglect is that of always keeping his engagements. If you can be relied upon to do what you said you would do, your value in any line is enhanced thereby. And if you can't be relied upon, no amount of brilliance will make up for that deficiency.

To keep your dates straight you need a calendar just as much as you need a watch.

Our Washington information bureau offers you one free with the compliments of the United States navy. It is printed in color, and the page has a leaf for each month in 1921.

Fill out the coupon and inclose two cents in stamps for return postage.

Frederic J. Haskin, director The Memphis News Scimitar, Information Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

I inclose herewith two cents in stamps for return postage on a free copy of the calendar for 1921.

## HOROSCOPE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1921.

Although this is the first day of the year astrologers read this as an important planetary direction. Jupiter and Saturn rule today, and the sun and Mars are adverse.

The stars seem to indicate that 1921 will be a year of great troubles and difficulties. The outlook for the next 12 months is on the whole most encouraging, although there will be many troubles and difficulties in many states.

Astrologers predict that following industrial upheavals there will be a general acceptance of co-operation between capital and labor which will supersede the union.

The wise today will send good wishes to relatives and friends on whom they are dependent for their livelihood. Calls will not be lucky, while the sun has slanted west.

Warning is given that the rule may be conducive to dissatisfaction with existing conditions. Let your mind be fully sure that the boys with whom they are riding are all right and have good judgment and sense enough to take care of them in case of an accident or emergency, then car riding at night is all right.

You have not told me whether you are to be married in early morning, noon or evening. Let your friends and family help you to decide the question of your dress, as the amount to be expended will need to be decided on this point. A suit of brown, taupe or blue duvety, fringed with hat and accessories, is proper for travel.

Dear Mrs. Thompson—We are three chums, aged 16, 18 and 17 years. The other night we were playing cards. They were asked to play cards. They were asked to play cards. They were asked to play cards.

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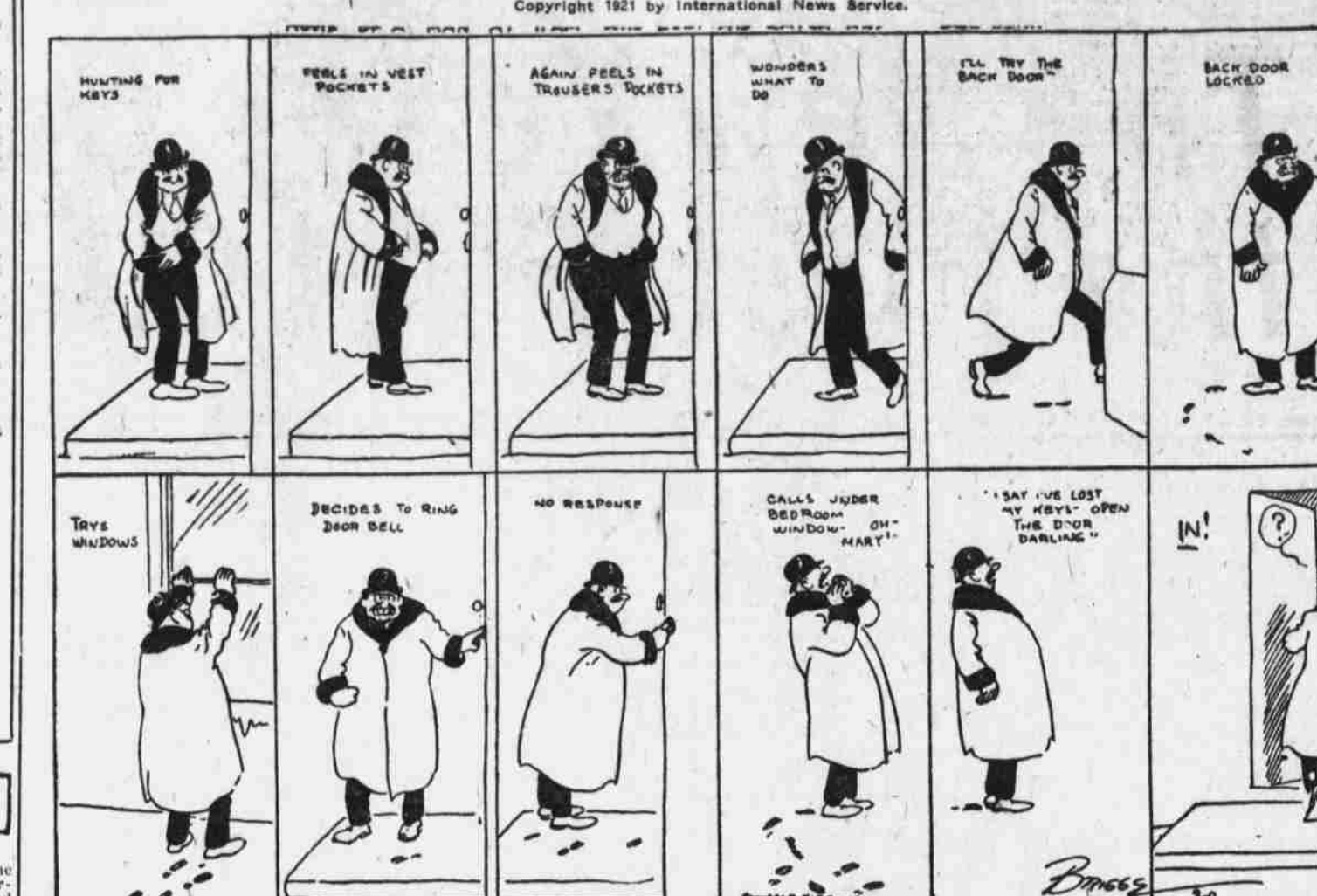
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## Movie of a Man At 1 A. M., Who Lost His Latch Key—By Briggs

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## Popular Youngsters Think of Marriage

BY MRS. ELIZABETH THOMPSON.

Dear Mrs. Thompson—We are four girls—all brunettes—and are very popular with the boys. Three of us are 16 and one 17 years old. Do you think we who are 16 are too young to be engaged to boys who seem to think all the world of us? Should we write to other boys? Is there any harm in a boy hugging a girl to whom he is not engaged? Does it look bad for a girl to cross her legs in a crowd? Is it wrong for girls and boys to go automobile riding at night if the boys are nice?

For him. He did not leave immediately, although one of the other boys did. We made candy, and as soon as we got through about 9 o'clock, the boy who had left early telephoned and asked to speak to one of the boys. In about 15 minutes they all left. We found out later that they had been invited to a dance, should we continue to speak to them, or should we ignore them altogether? We have enough pride to resent this kind of treatment, so please advise us.

WINK, MINK AND CHINK.

The boys did not treat you with due respect. Be careful about inviting them again. Continue to speak to them as if you care and care or were at all sorry that they left.

Dear Mrs. Thompson—Kindly advise me the name and address of the new olive club that has recently been organized in Memphis and meets at the Hotel Gayoso on Fridays. Also tell me the requirements for new members, list of officers and other information that might assist me in entering whether or not a membership is desirable.

A CITIZEN.

Name of club, Civitan, which is a local organization of the National Association of Civitan clubs. Meets every Friday at the Hotel Gayoso at 12:15. Membership is drawn in same manner as that of Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, and is composed of men of business, of the grammar schools of the city. Motto of club is "Builders of Good Citizens." Walter Chandler, president; F. M. Echolf, vice-president, and H. E. McIlwain, secretary. The officers and other information that might assist me in entering whether or not a membership is desirable.

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## Public Discussion

Q—What was the total acreage of land grants to the railroads by the federal government?

A—Prof. Charles Lee Raper, in his book on "Railway Transportation," says that the total land grants made by the government, indirectly through the states during the period 1862-1871 constituted 160,000 acres.

Q—How does an automatic compare with a revolver and pistol in regard to the question of killing?

A—The war department says that an automatic and a revolver of the same caliber have practically the same velocity. A pistol has a little more power because there is no escape of gas in shooting.

Q—Would it be possible to administer any or all of the tests for immigrants to the United States at the consulate of the port of embarkation?

A—The commissioner of immigration says that the present laws would not permit consular offices of the United States to administer tests at the port of embarkation, to immigrants coming to the United States. These officers are not under the jurisdiction of the immigration laws, but it is not possible for them to give any tests. This would require the enactment of a new law.

Q—Is the male ostrich larger than the female?—N. W. L.

A—The male ostrich is somewhat larger than the female and weighs upward of 200 pounds.

Q—Where is the original copy of the Declaration of Independence?—F. W.

A—The original copy of the Declaration of Independence is kept in the archives of the state department. During the summer of 1915 this document was on exhibition to the public for several weeks at Washington, D. C.

Q—Will charring wood that is to be used for posts prevent decay?—H. V. W.

A—Experiments conducted by the United States forest products laboratory indicate that charred posts are less durable than untreated ones.